(xix) Same number of proposesrs for all contesting candidates;

(xx) Making of false declaration in connection with election to be an offence;

(xxi) Rule making authority to be vested in Election Commission; and

(xxii) Registration and de-registration of political parties

The Government is examining these proposals.

Affairs of CPWD

*214. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite having a 7000 strong technical work force for competitive construction and designing work, the CPWD has engaged a private consultant to modernize the department;

(b) whether CPWD works are mostly allotted to the private contractors rendering the regular workforce idle and unproductive;

(c) whether CPWD is technically competent to provide consultancy and turn-key jobs to DDA, HUDCO etc.; and

(d) if so, whether CPWD has provided any such service so far?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) with a view to reviewing the structure and functioning of CPWD so as to optimize resource utilization, augment efficiencies and to enable it to improve client satisfaction with specific focus on certain major areas, a Process Improvement Study was assigned to M/s. ICRA Management Consulting Services in February, 2005.

(b) Almost all work relating to architectural, structural and services planning, supervision of construction and day-to-day maintenance of works/assets spread all over the country is carried out by CPWD's own manpower. Private contractors are engaged for execution of construction and major repairs works under CPWD's supervision. It is not correct to infer that the regular manpower in CPWD is rendered idle on account of the work entrusted to private contractors.

(c) and (d) CPWD is the principal construction agency of the Central Government and is competent to provide consultancy and turn-key jobs to various organizations and, over the years, has carried out a large number of such jobs.

Penalty for Sonia Vihar Plant

*215. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government would have to pay Rs. 2.3 lakhs per day as penalty to the multi-national company Degremont if Sonia Vihar Plant is not made operational;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps have been initiated to provide water to the residents of Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) The Delhi Jal Board (DJB) has informed that no such penalty is payable. However, the contract provides for payment of some specified charges if raw water is not supplied after the plant is operationalised. DJB has further intimated that the plant has not been operationalised so far.

(c) DJB has further indicated that it is supplying 675 million gallons of water per day in Delhi for a population of about 140 lakhs which works out to approximately 210 litres per capita daily (1pcd). Water treatment plants at Sonia Vihar and Nangloi have been constructed adding treatment capacity of 180 mgd to further enhance the availability of drinking water. Water treatment plants at Dwarka, Bawana and Okhla have also been planned which would add an estimated 80 mgd of treatment capacity. Action has also been taken by Delhi Jal Board to reduce the seepage losses and recycling of waste water at existing plants.

The Delhi Jal Board has also informed that, as short-term measures, about 255 tubewells have been bored/rebored and 449 Deep Bore Hand Pumps have been installed. During the current summer season, about 1200 water tankers have also been deployed to augment water supply in various parts of Delhi.